



## Habitat Information Tracking System



Dec 9, 2009

### Project Overview

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**Project: (50926) Bocce Woods Invasive Control/Habit Restoration**

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**Type:** Habitat Improvement  
**Orgcode:** (51120) DELAWARE BAY ESTUARY PROJECT  
**Entered By:** Flavia Williams-Rutkosky, 302-653-9152 x111  
**Point of Contact:** Flavia Rutkosky  
**Creation Date:** Aug 21, 2008  
**Status:** Active  
**State:** Delaware  
**FWS Region:** 5

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#### **Project Narrative:**

DBEP is collaborating with the Fairmount Park Commission to control invasives and reforest a 7-acre site within the Cobbs Creek section of Fairmount Park. Philadelphia's 8000-acre Fairmount Park has the distinction of being the only urban area in Pennsylvania recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Audubon Pennsylvania.

Within Fairmount Park there are areas that have become over run with non-native invasive plants which provide little habitat value to migratory birds. About 10 years ago, Fairmount Park launched a multi-year initiative - the Natural Lands Restoration Project - to restore the integrity of the vegetation communities on degraded sites within the Park. One such area is a 7-acre section within the Cobbs Creek Watershed in West Philadelphia. This site - immediately adjacent to Bocce Woods an area which retains a high diversity of native trees - is dominated by tree-of-heaven, princess tree, sycamore and Norway maple, white and paper mulberry, catalpa, Japanese and shrub honeysuckles, multiflora rose, mile-a-minute and mugwort. This site along with Bocce Woods represents one of the largest contiguous forest areas in the Cobbs Creek Park and the presence of these invasives poses a serious threat to the integrity of Bocce Woods. Elephant foot (*Elephantopus carolinianus*) a State-listed Endangered Species is found along the floodplain of Bocce Woods. Park Volunteers have begun to work in one corner of the degraded site, but the extent of the invasion, the size of the trees and the tenacity of the plants move this site beyond the scope of a volunteer project.

Fairmount Park secured a grant to fund a contractor to remove invasive plants from the entire site and to control re-sprouting vegetation. This funding along with funds supplied by Fairmount Park and DBEP will be used to control the invasive plants and to plant locally native trees and shrubs to provide high value food,

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cover and breeding habitat for migratory songbirds - effectively expanding Bocce Woods. Park Volunteers will monitor the plantings and continue to control new growth of invasive plants as they occur.

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**Public Description:**

DBEP is collaborating with the Fairmount Park Commission to control invasives and reforest a 7-acre site within the Cobbs Creek section of Fairmount Park. Philadelphia's 8000-acre Fairmount Park has the distinction of being the only urban area in Pennsylvania recognized as an Important Bird Area (IBA) by Audubon Pennsylvania.

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**Project mechanism(s):**

1. **Title:** Urban Migratory Bird Treaty  
**Mechanism Type:** Contract

**Mechanism: Urban Migratory Bird Treaty**

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**Title:Urban Migratory Bird Treaty**

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**Mechanism Type:** Contract

**Primary Non-FWS Party:** Local Unit of Government

**Length of Mechanism:** 0 years

**Perpetuity?** yes

**Funds Obligated Date:** Sep 2008

**Funding Source Fiscal Year:** 2008

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**Additional Comments:**

Philadelphia Urban Migratory Bird Conservation Treaty is part of the FWS urban initiative launched in 2001.

Mechanical and chemical invasive control occurred beginning in March 2008 and will be completed in August 2008. Planting (including seeding) will begin in September 2008. Selective herbicide application is schedule for august 2009. Additional planting will occur in September 2009.

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**Mechanism accomplishment(s):**

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1. **Title:** Bocce Woods

**Habitat Type:** Upland

**Accomplishment Type:** Restoration

## **Accomplishment: Bocce Woods**

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**Accomplishment:Bocce Woods****Mechanism:Urban Migratory Bird Treaty**

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**Watershed (HUC):** SCHUYLKILL

**County:** Philadelphia

**State:** Pennsylvania

**FWS Region:** 5 - Region 5

**FWS Ecoregion:** Delaware River/Delmarva Coastal Area

**Accomplishment Status:** Estimate

**Accomplishment Type:** Restoration

**Habitat Type:** Upland

**Habitat Class:** Mixed Forest

**Habitat Sub-Class:** Oak - hickory forest

**Primary Trust/Resource Benefits:** Migratory Birds

**Secondary Trust/Resource Benefits:** Threatened/Endangered/Candidate Species

**Other Trust/Resource Benefits:** Tribal Lands

**Overlay Protection Holder:** Local Unit of Government

**Protected in perpetuity?** yes

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**Accomplishment area(s):**

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**1. Title:** Bocce Woods (Fairmount Park)

**Primary Non-FWS Party:** Local Unit of  
Government

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**Area: Bocce Woods (Fairmount Park)**

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**Accomplishment: Bocce Woods****Area: Bocce Woods (Fairmount Park)**

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**Primary Non-FWS Party:** Local Unit of Government

**Fiscal Year of Work:** 2009

**Treatment / Technique: 1** Invasive Species Control - Biological/Chemical/Mechanical

**Est. Acres After:** 7.0

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**Comments:**

After invasive control is established, the area will be replanted with locally native woody species. Park Volunteers will monitor the plantings and remove any invasive regrowth that occurs.

During FY09 mechanical and manual clearing occurred on the site. Two herbicide treatments were applied in spring and a third treatment was applied in late August 2009.

After the initial clearing and herbicide application the area was seeded with wild rye for coverage and woody species will be established this fall.

Kudzu is still present on the outermost portion of the site and another herbicide treatment will be applied. This remaining portion will be planted during FY2010.

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**Area partner(s):**

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**Partner:** Fairmount Park Commission  
**Partner Type:** Local Unit of Government  
**Is this partner a landowner?** yes  
**Partner Cash Contribution:** \$11377.00  
**Partner Inkind Contribution:** \$2000.00  
**Fiscal Year:** 2008

**Partner:** Growing Your Neighborhood  
**Partner Type:** Other  
**Partner Cash Contribution:** \$40400.00  
**Fiscal Year:** 2008

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**Comments: for Growing Your Neighborhood**

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Growing Your Neighborhood is coaliton of corporate and private funders.

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**Area sub-activity(s):**

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**FWS Sub-Activity:** Coastal Program - 1124  
**Contribution Fiscal Year:** 2008  
**Funding Source Fiscal Year:** 2008  
**Est. Cash:** \$2000.00  
**Est. Inkind:** \$635.00  
**Est. FWS Days:** 1.0

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**Area ITIS species:**

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**Species Name:** Contopus virens  
**Common Name:** Eastern Wood-Pewee

**Species Name:** Troglodytes aedon  
**Common Name:** House Wren

**Species Name:** Dendroica petechia  
**Common Name:** Yellow Warbler

**Species Name:** Passerina cyanea  
**Common Name:** Indigo Bunting

**Species Name:** Pipilo erythrophthalmus  
**Common Name:** Eastern Towhee

**Species Name:** Polioptila caerulea  
**Common Name:** Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

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**Area monitoring:**

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**Staff Days:** 1.0  
**Fiscal Year:** 2009

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**Comments:**

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Long-term monitoring of this project will be accomplished by Fairmount Park staff and Park Volunteers. DBEP staff will provide one staf day per annual monitoing effort.

## Total Area

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### Total Project Area By Habitat Type

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Est. Upland Acres After: 7.0

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### Total Project Area

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Est. Acres After: 7.0

## Total Contributions

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### Total Partner Contribution to Project By Habitat Type

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Upland Cash: \$51777.00

Upland Inkind: \$2000.00

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### Total Partner Contribution to Project

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Cash: \$51777.00

Inkind: \$2000.00

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### Total Service Contribution to Project By Habitat Type

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Est. Upland Cash: \$2000.00

Est. Upland Inkind: \$635.00

Est. Upland FWS Days: 1.0

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Est. Cash: \$2000.00

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Est. FWS Days: 1.0